



'Syrians violate Iraqi airspace'

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has formally protested to the Arab League over what it said was the violation of its airspace by Syrian planes on Wednesday, the Iraqi News Agency said Sunday. The agency said a protest note had been handed to the Arab League's Secretariat General in Tunis by Iraq's permanent representative to the league. "The above Syrian violation of Iraqi space was the fifth hostile act against Iraq in this respect," the agency said. It said Syrian jets had violated Iraqi airspace on four previous occasions, in April and May last year, penetrating 30 kilometres deep.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Israel jails 2 for refusing Lebanon duty

TEL AVIV (R) — Two more reservists have been jailed for refusing to serve with the Israeli army in Lebanon, the anti-war *Yesh Gvul* (There is a Limit) movement said Sunday. It said a total of 51 soldiers had now been sentenced by military courts for objecting to duty in Lebanon. One of the reservists was given a 28-day jail term and the other was imprisoned for 35 days, it said.

Assad receives Libyan message

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad met a special Libyan envoy Sunday who brought a message on "current regional developments" from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the official Syrian news agency SANA reported. The envoy, Energy Minister Abdul Majid Gaood, arrived in Damascus Saturday following a telephone call Col. Qadhafi made to Mr. Assad on Friday.

U.K. Communists to contest 40 seats

LONDON (R) — Britain's tiny Communist Party announced Sunday it would field 40 candidates for the 650 seats to be contested in the June 9 general election. The party, campaigning on a slogan of "Jobs not Bombs," will publish its manifesto on Thursday. It had no members in the dissolved parliament.

Sharon cuts short U.S. visit

TEL AVIV (R) — Hardline Israeli cabinet minister Ariel Sharon has cut short U.S. tour and returned home after his son was injured in an accident. The Labour opposition had called on the government to summon home the former defence minister from a fund-raising tour for his criticism of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement on withdrawing foreign forces from Lebanon. Mr. Sharon's son Omri was injured in a traffic accident in Tel Aviv on Saturday.

Earthquake shakes American midwest

ST. LOUIS (R) — A mild earthquake shook parts of Illinois, Missouri and Indiana early Sunday but apparently caused no damage or injuries, police said. A spokesman for the National Earthquake Information Service in Golden, Colorado, said preliminary data indicated the tremor registered 4.4 on the Richter scale. He said it was centred about 65 kilometres northeast of St. Louis in a rural area of southern Illinois.

Yaquib Khan, Peking hold Afghan talks

HONG KONG (R) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sabahuddin Yaquib Khan arrived on a two-day visit to Peking Sunday and went straight into talks on Afghanistan with his Chinese counterpart, Wu Xueqian, the New China News Agency reported. The agency, monitored in Hong Kong, gave no details of the talks. Mr. Yaquib Khan said in Islamabad earlier Sunday that he would brief the Chinese on the progress of indirect U.N.-sponsored talks in Geneva last month on an Afghan peace plan.

INSIDE

- Icelanders still worship heathen gods page 2
- Chinese delegation voices support for Palestinians. page 3
- British Labour Party puts up a united front page 4
- Salt's architecture flourished at the turn of the century, by Rami G. Khouri, page 5
- Marriott's 111-kilometre road race set for Friday, page 6
- Britain to press for budget rebates, page 7
- Bonn holds out olive branch to East Germany, page 8

U.S. arms negotiator has 'more latitude'

GENEVA (R) — U.S. negotiator Paul Nitze said Sunday he now had more latitude in the Geneva medium-range missile talks than two months ago but accused Moscow of imposing unacceptable conditions.

Arriving here for a new round of talks starting on Tuesday, he told journalists he would put forward the U.S. proposal for an interim agreement reducing each superpower's medium-range war-

heads in Europe to an agreed ceiling.

President Reagan announced the proposal at the end of March, just before the last round of the Geneva talks ended.

The president's original "zero option"—which would ban all Soviet and American land-based medium-range weapons from Europe—remains on the table as an eventual goal, Mr. Nitze added.

Asked whether Soviet Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov's offer earlier this month to count warheads and not just missiles gave him more latitude, Mr. Nitze said: "I do have more latitude than prior to the time when I was authorised to make the interim proposals."

Asked if he was prepared to sound out the Soviet side on its proposals with an open mind, he replied: "We are indeed."

Qaboos, Mubarak hold talks

PORT SAID, Egypt (R) — Oman's Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak aboard his private yacht Sunday for talks and a Suez Canal cruise from Port Said to Ismailia. The Omani leader, on his way home from a private European tour, was received in Port Said by Mr. Mubarak and senior members of his government. Egypt's Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said the talks would centre on bilateral and Middle East issues. Mr. Mubarak was due to give a banquet in honour of his guest in Ismailia. Oman, Sudan and Somalia were the only Arab states which maintained diplomatic relations with Egypt after its 1979 treaty with Israel.

Negotiators finalise Lebanon agreement

NETANYA (R) — Israeli, Lebanese and U.S. negotiators Sunday ended work on an agreement to withdraw Israeli forces from Lebanon and said it would be signed next week, despite fresh signs that Syria will try to torpedo it.

The Israeli and Lebanese parliaments will discuss the accord Monday and it could be signed on Tuesday, spokesmen for the two countries' delegations said.

The Israeli and Lebanese governments have already approved the agreement, and both spokesmen told reporters they expected the parliaments to endorse it.

Delegates from the three countries met for about six hours Sunday to complete the translations of the accord into French and Arabic. It was translated into English and Hebrew at a long session last Friday.

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner said: "We have completed work on the agree-

ment and it is now ready for signature in the next few days."

Israeli and Lebanese officials said signing ceremonies would be held on the same day in Khalde, south of Beirut, and in the northern Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona. Many of the negotiating sessions were held in those two locations.

The work which was completed Sunday ended more than four months of negotiations. The painstaking comparison of drafts was necessary because both the French and English versions will be official texts, to be used in settling any future disputes over them.

The Israeli cabinet official said Syria was likely to keep military

(Continued on page 3)

Damascus media warn of Lebanese civil war

DAMASCUS (R) — State-controlled Syrian newspapers said Sunday that new Lebanese civil war would break out if the Beirut government signed a U.S.-backed troop withdrawal agreement with Israel.

In the strongest warning so far against signing the deal, the organ of the ruling Baath Party said

Syria would support all efforts inside and outside Lebanon to torpedo the agreement.

The Lebanese cabinet, shrugging off Syrian objections, Saturday unanimously approved the agreement. A date for the signing is expected to be fixed for this week.

(Continued on page 3)

S. Arabia urges Lebanon-Syria negotiations

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz has called for high-level talks to settle differences between Lebanon and Syria over a U.S.-backed agreement for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Prince Sultan was speaking to Arab journalists in Paris Saturday at the end of a six-day visit during which he had talks with French officials and U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger. His remarks were reported Sunday by the Saudi Press Agency.

"Differences between Lebanon and Syria do not serve Lebanon or the Arab World... the issue should be discussed at the highest level to reach an honourable agreement," he said.

The Lebanese government approved the agreement with Israel Saturday while Syria rejected it on the grounds it would turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate.

Earlier this week Prince Sultan said his country would not put pressure on Syria to accept the U.S.-backed agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

Supreme Soviet may elect new head of state

MOSCOW (R) — The Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Union's parliament, may elect a new head of state next month to succeed late President Leonid Brezhnev, Soviet sources said Sunday.

Mr. Brezhnev, who died in November, was succeeded as Communist Party first secretary and chairman of the Defence Council by Yuri Andropov, but the chairmanship of the Supreme Soviet Praesidium remains vacant.

There has been speculation that the failure to fill the post last November followed disagreements in the party leadership.

Moscow newspapers reported Sunday that a regular session of the Supreme Soviet would begin on June 16. The first working meeting since November, it is likely to last two days.

The party Central Committee is widely expected to meet before the Supreme Soviet for an important policymaking session.

Asked whether Soviet Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov's offer earlier this month to count warheads and not just missiles gave him more latitude, Mr. Nitze said: "I do have more latitude than prior to the time when I was authorised to make the interim proposals."

Asked if he was prepared to sound out the Soviet side on its proposals with an open mind, he replied: "We are indeed."



His Majesty King Hussein is welcomed by His Highness Prince Abd al-Hamid, upon his return Sunday from a private visit to London (Petra photo)

Moscow not interested in Mideast confrontation, Prince Hassan asserts

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said here Sunday he believed the Soviet Union was not interested in a Middle East confrontation despite its increased military activity in Syria.

Prince Hassan also held out hope Syria would eventually accept the U.S.-backed agreement

(Continued on page 3)

Moroccan team arrives with message for Hussein

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Moroccan delegation led by Parliament Speaker Al-Said Ould Sidi Baba arrived here Sunday with a message to His Majesty King Hussein from King Hassan II of Morocco. The delegation will hold talks with Jordanian officials on issues that will be discussed by the Arab-Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting, scheduled to open in Bagdad this week, according to Mr. Sidi Baba.

He said in an arrival statement that Morocco supports calls for increased contacts among Arab parliamentarians to coordinate their countries' stands on issues of concern to the Arab Nation.

The visit of the Moroccan delegation is in response to an invitation by Jordan's Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al-Tarawneh. The delegation will later leave for Bagdad to take part in the APU meeting.

The seven-member delegation was met upon arrival by Mr. Tarawneh, Upper House of Parliament members, a representative of the Foreign Ministry and Moroccan ambassador to Jordan Abdul Latif Laraki.

Belgian trade delegation in Amman on 5-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A Belgian delegation, led by Parliament Speaker Al-Said Ould Sidi Baba arrived here Sunday with a message to His Majesty King Hussein from King Hassan II of Morocco. The delegation will hold talks with Jordanian officials on issues that will be discussed by the Arab-Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting, scheduled to open in Bagdad this week, according to Mr. Sidi Baba.

He said in an arrival statement that Morocco supports calls for increased contacts among Arab parliamentarians to coordinate

their countries' stands on issues of concern to the Arab Nation.

The delegation was met upon arrival by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour and other officials as well as the Belgian ambassador to Jordan.

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*The Jordan National Bank

*Bank Al Mahreq

May, 1983

FEATURES

Heathen gods still worshipped in Iceland

By Helen Womack

Reuter

BORGARFJOERDUR, Iceland — High in the Icelandic mountains on an isolated farm with 80 sheep lives an old man with a long white beard who still believes in the ancient Scandinavian heathen gods.

On quiet evenings, he prays to Thor, Freyr and Tyr. On feast days he drinks to them with beer and schnapps, the modern form of mead, from the state alcohol monopoly.

Sveinbjorn Beinteinson is the high priest of the Asatruarmenn, an officially recognised sect of 70 disciples with many admirers among the Lutheran but sup-

erstitious Icelanders.

He says his movement has some of the back-to-nature ideas of European Green Parties and a strong element of nationalism in reaction to the American-manned NATO base at Keflavik.

But he rejects the philosophy of Neo-Nazi groups who have written to him from the United States and West Germany.

The sect was officially recog-

nised in 1973 when Beinteinson celebrated his new right to name children, marry couples and bury the dead with the first outdoor blot or sacrifice since Iceland adopted Christianity and outlawed paganism in 1000 A.D.

Since slaughtering outside licensed abattoirs is illegal here, the disciples, including at that time

Since little is known of the re-

ligious practices of the Norwegian Vikings, who settled Iceland in the eighth and ninth centuries, Beinteinson has scope for innovation.

He has erected a towering plaster image of Thor near his farm where his disciples chant and drink for peace and fertility at the winter and summer solstices.

Thor the thunderer, masculine and protective god of the sky, is the sect's main deity followed by Freyr, the gentle god of the earth, peace and resurrection. The days of the week, Thursday and Friday, are named after these gods in English and the Nordic languages.

The sect also believes in Odin, a deceitful god of poetry and death, but finds him "unsuitable" and does not pray to him.

"I do not oppose the Christian god but I do not feel him. The struggle in the world would not exist if there were one almighty god," Beinteinson said.

The basic moral philosophy of the sect is that man should feel his connection to all living things, be moderate and take the consequences of his actions.

Beinteinson rejected the notions of heaven and hell but said an unhappy spirit could return if it had left behind something improper in its life.

His ideas on the afterlife strike a strong chord with many ordinary Icelanders who still believe in spirits in the stones and the malevolent ghosts of those who died violently.

New image for Knights of Malta

By Stuart Harris

Reuter

PALACE OF MALTA, Rome — History has come full circle for the Knights of Malta, who are again helping the sick in the Middle East some eight centuries after they were expelled.

Founded in 1099 to help Christians in the Holy Land, the religious order rapidly changed into a violent enemy of the Muslim World, whose armies finally threw it out in 1187.

But in 1956 it formed new ties with Lebanon and now its knights are there in peace, running hospitals which gave vital medical care throughout last year's Israeli invasion.

The sovereign military hospital Order of St. John, of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta, to give it its full title, is one of the more bizarre relics of European history.

It has laws, a government, diplomatic ties with 42 countries, and all the attributes of a state except territory. It calls itself "a sovereign and international person."

The 9,000-strong, deeply Catholic order maintains a curious medieval mixture of religiosity and hierarchy. It is led by a papally appointed prince, and its upper ranks, the Knights of Justice, are open only to those possessing two centuries of noble lineage.

Tradition is, however, somewhat on the wane and now only some 40 per cent of the order is aristocratic.

But if it has not yet completely shaken off its social roots, it has disposed of its military past more successfully.

The order embodied the medieval ability to reconcile Christian humility and militancy, int-

erupting charity with violent onslaughts on its Islamic enemies.

Even after the final Christian toe-hold in the Holy Land fell to Muslims in 1291 it battled on from the fortified islands of Rhodes and then Malta.

Until well into the 16th century the order harried Islam and in turn withstood ferocious sieges, including one in 1565 during which Muslims crucified knights and knights used the heads of prisoners as cannibals.

But as the age of crusades and religious wars passed, the order lost its role, its life as defender of the faith finally ended when Napoleon took away its island.

Settling in a Roman palace that is treated as an independent state, the order eventually found a new enemy by going back to the purpose for which it was founded. It now disregards race and creed in the service of "our lord the poor and sick."

To help its campaign the order has forged links with both Muslim Egypt and Communist Cuba.

"Diplomatic ties facilitate our medical work. They provide the infrastructure which helps us," the Grand Chancellor, Felice Caralano Di Melilli told Reuters in an interview.

"The order's good relations with Cuba are the best demonstration that we don't have political aims," he added.

Members of the order served as medical staff on both sides in both world wars. A hospital it ran in part of South Vietnam carried on regardless when the area was taken by the north, said Antonio Jannone, press officer and palace chaplain.

The knights, grouped in national associations, recruit competent staff and often work in the order's administrative, fund-

raising and logistical operations, the chancellor said.

And now they are back in their old stamping ground of Lebanon, although this time in very different circumstances.

Their two hospitals in Beirut kept working throughout last year's siege of the city by Israeli forces.

The Wadi Abou Jamil Hospital in West Beirut, which like the others is mainly staffed by French, was in the thick of the fighting and only closed for two weeks to repair war damage.

The war also proved that the knights could react rapidly to sudden demands placed on their resources and organisation.

The national associations replied to the order's appeals and rushed in tonnes of medical supplies to relieve shortages.

But the order also has a specialist interest in tropical diseases like leprosy and gives assistance during natural disasters.

Its funds come from Austrian and Italian property, from money paid by new members and from gifts, the chancellor said.

"For example, we are working on a centre for the blind in Bologna with a patrimony that was bequeathed to us on condition we used it for that purpose," he added.

But no ancient chivalrous order, however much it changed, would be complete without a mystery over its holy relics.

In the case of the Knights of Malta, the mystery surrounds the right hand of St. John the baptist and the image of Our Lady of Fátima which vanished in the World War II.

"Nobody knows where the holy relics are now... maybe they will be found again," Jannone said.

U.S. volunteers get to know the real Cubans

By Colin McSevney

Reuter

CAIMITO, Cuba — Groups of young volunteer workers inexplicably stacking bricks or picking vegetables are everyday sights in Communist Cuba, but the amateur labourers toiling here were definitely different.

The 30 or so men and women helping build apartment blocks near this small town 50 kilometres from Havana came from New York, Detroit, Seattle and Los Angeles.

They formed part of the 130-strong visiting contingent of the so-called Venceremos (we shall triumph) Brigade, a loosely knit American organisation which has tried to promote closer links between the United States and Cuba

for the past 14 years.

The Venceremos Brigade was formed by radical students during the campus protests of the late 1960s and has since made annual visits to this Caribbean island for first-hand experience of life in a Marxist-run country.

"Apart from anything else we want to see for ourselves that Cuba is not the evil, warmongering dictatorship it is portrayed as by the American establishment," Michele Frank, a 33-year-old bridge organiser from New York, told Reuters.

Successive U.S. administrations have considered Cuba as virtually a Soviet surrogate and have accused it of fomenting subversion in Central America and Africa. A U.S. trade ban has been in force for more than 20 years.

"The U.S. establishment makes sure Americans are misinformed about Cuba because it fears this example of socialism right under its nose," Jose Candelario, A New Yorker, said.

"What impresses me most about Cuba is the feeling of comradeship among the people, their openness and the lack of 'rat-race' mentality," said one young woman, her hands raw from lifting bricks.

The brigade members who spoke to Reuters said they were not Communists but were interested in an alternative to what they saw as social injustice and big business domination in their homeland.

Their enthusiasm for life here was undimmed by the West's conventional misgivings about rights.

One-party rule or the lack of free speech in Cuba.

The visitors, most of them on their first trip to Cuba, included lawyers, students and an accountant, as well as many jobless manual workers. A high proportion were black or of Puerto Rican or Mexican descent.

Charles Marshall, a black lawyer from Los Angeles, admitted that the brigade's estimated 2,000 members found new recruits hard to come by among the white, non-Hispanic working classes, which have also been hit by the current recession.

Apart from helping local workers build houses and lay out a recreation ground, the brigade also toured factories and farms and took part in political discussions.

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HOME NEWS

AWSA plans new projects for capital

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA) is planning to carry out a number of important projects in Amman and its suburbs shortly, AWSA Director-General Mohammad Saleh Al Kilani said here Sunday.

He told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that one of these projects would entail the installation of new water meters for water-towers, mains, artesian wells and pumping stations. These meters will be controlled by a central computerised station to be installed at Shmeisani, and will monitor the amounts of drinking water being consumed in the capital in order to detect possible leakage, Mr. Kilani said.

This method, he said, has been successfully used in London whose water services he had examined during his recent visit to the British capital.

AWSA also plans in cooperation with the Amman Municipality carry out maintenance work along six kilometres of road stretching from Al Muhaqirin Bridge to 'Ain Ghazal, according to Mr. Kilani. The road, which runs over the Amman stream, will be provided with manholes while also being strengthened with reinforced concrete during this coming summer, Mr. Kilani added.

He said AWSA will shortly import safety equipment to protect maintenance workers who handle poisonous material, and an effective control system will be established to carry out periodic inspections of factory effluent and waste water to ensure that they do not cause any harm to public safety.

Obeidi leaves for Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary-General Mahdi Al Obeidi left for Baghdad Sunday to take part in the third meeting of the Arab inter-parliamentary union which opens Monday.

During his stay in Baghdad, Mr. Obeidi will also hold meetings with Iraqi officials on joint Arab economic action and Arab economic integration.

Meanwhile CEAU Deputy Secretary-General Nasouh Al Barghouthi left Amman for Tunisia to take part in the meetings of a committee that coordinates activities among Arab League related organisations. Mr. Barghouthi will later visit the Libyan capital Tripoli.

Awqaf ministry discusses Mecca arrangements

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting was held at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sunday to discuss matters connected with the coming pilgrimage season to Mecca.

The meeting chaired by the ministry's Under-Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, discussed in particular the transport required to carry Jordanian pilgrims, the fares to be charged and other related topics.

The meeting was attended by the under-secretary of the Ministry of Interior, the director of the Traffic Department and representatives from the Ministry of Transport.

Jerash electrical projects opened

JERASH (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Sunday attended the inauguration ceremonies of electrification projects held at four villages in the Jerash district. The villages which have now been supplied with electrical power on the completion of the JD 350,000 projects are Sakeb, Reim, Nahleah and Kitch.

After the ceremonies, the Prime Minister chaired a meeting of the Irbid District Electricity Company board at which its Director Mohammad Arateh gave a review of electricity projects that are to be

implemented in Irbid Governorate in the later part of this year.

A total of 98 villages will be supplied with electricity in one year's time from now, Mr. Arateh said.

Mr. Badran, in reply, pledged continued government support for the company's projects.

Later, Mr. Arateh told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra that projects in the four villages of Jerash entailed laying nine kilometres of cables, the establishment of four

transformer stations and the erection of 1,500 electric poles. Altogether 1,300 subscribers will benefit from these projects, Mr. Arateh said.

On electrification projects in rural regions, Mr. Arateh said a JD 750,000 project will be completed in five months to supply electricity to 16 villages in the Jerash, Mafrag and Irbid districts. By the end of 1983, a total of 155 towns and villages in the Irbid Governorate containing 557,000 inhabitants will be supplied with electric power, he added.

Drug squad seizes large hashish find

AMMAN (Petra) — A haul of 175 kilograms of hashish worth nearly JD 100,000 at street prices has been seized by the Public Security Department's drug squad, according to a police statement released Sunday.

It said that the drugs were found hidden inside a lorry that was entering the country from a neighbouring state. The lorry was impounded and its driver detained pending trial by military court, the statement said.

Last week, another vehicle carrying 10 kilograms of hashish was seized, and the driver and his eight accomplices have been referred to the military court, the statement added.

Jaber calls for speedier apprenticeship schemes

AMMAN (J.T.) — "It could take Jordanian school leavers less than nine months to become competent carpenters, plumbers and construction industry workers if they are put through an accelerated apprenticeship programme," said under-secretary for the Ministry of Labour Dr. Taysir Abdul Jaber speaking in London Sunday.

In Britain on a fact-finding mission to investigate industrial relations, he said he was concerned that so many Jordanian students leave school with no marketable skills, yet current apprenticeship programmes can take up to three years to turn a teenager into a carpenter or fitter.

"There has to be direct and skillful conciliation by both parties, and communications channels must be kept open," he explained.

Anani chairs pan-Arab employment committee

AMMAN (Petra) — A regional committee of experts on employment and manpower held a meeting in Amman Sunday under the chairmanship of Labour Minister Jawad Al Anani.

Speaking at the meeting, Dr. Anani stressed the importance of conducting a study of employment and labour needs in the Arab World, and the need to define the issues and problems that should be tackled. The committee comprised members representing Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria.

Negotiators finalise Lebanon agreement

(Continued from page 1)

Tension high in Lebanon while it weighed up the agreement.

"The military tension will not disappear. Syria's custom is to accompany negotiations with military instability," the official said.

But he noted there had been no shooting between Syria and Israel despite reports of tension.

The cabinet discussed clarifications worked out last week in talks with American envoys Morris Draper and Philip Habib, the official said, adding that Israel wanted a few more clarifications but would not hold up signing the agreement to obtain them.

Parts of the pact are to remain secret at the request of the Lebanese, he added.

Damascus says the agreement would favour Israel and harm Syria's security by turning Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate.

Despite Syrian resistance, the Lebanese cabinet Saturday approved the pact. Israel's cabinet gave its approval nine days ago.

The official text has not been released. But officials have said it includes an end to the state of war between Israel and Lebanon.

The agreement also involves "security" arrangements aimed at preventing Palestinian fighters from returning to South Lebanon, from where they were able to rocket northern Israel until the Jewish state invaded Lebanon last summer.

'Soviets not interested in confrontation'

(Continued from page 1)

Interest in work to persuade the Syrians to take part in a general withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

Prince Hassan said, however, it would be hard "for the Syrians to make an immediate about-turn."

"On the other hand, I think their commitment to avoiding another full-scale war in the region is as real as anyone else's... so there is still hope," he said in a television interview.

The Crown Prince said he thought the Soviet Union had been "fairly impressed" by the wording of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and that its major points "have been taken quite well by them."

"True, there is advanced (Soviet) weaponry in Syria, but I doubt very much whether this would be used in any other role other than the defence of their friend and ally in the region in the same way as the United States feels committed to Israel," Prince Hassan said.

But he added that the threat of a superpower confrontation in the Middle East was a very serious development.

"I can't help feeling at this stage globally that the Soviets are not

interested in confrontation in the Middle East any more than they are anywhere else in the world," he said.

Prince Hassan said Jordan's great fear was that the region would finally be polarised into a Soviet-American confrontation and that client states would benefit from this.

Jordan had welcomed President Reagan's peace initiative "as a breath of fresh air," he said, adding that it was not perfect but at least it provided new impetus in the region.

Mr. Reagan's peace plan issued last September called for Palestinian self-rule in Israeli-occupied territories in association with Jordan, but ruled out the independent state demanded by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Prince Hassan added that he believed the Soviet Union res-

Tripoli, Bonn swap prisoners

(Continued from page 1)

the swap.

Bonn last Sunday deported a Libyan sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering a former

interested being excluded from the peace process and that Moscow could contribute to stability in the Middle East.

He urged the Soviet Union "to be sharp enough to take an initiative that would result in the stabilisation of the situation in Lebanon and that client states would benefit from this."

Jordan had told the PLO "you want your state, you think you can work towards it independently, go ahead and try. But don't ask us to participate in placing it as a prior condition," he said.

The Crown Prince urged the United States to offer a coherent policy to all its allies in the Middle East.

"I think a coherent policy has to be made clear to the Arabs on the one side and to Israel on the other. You sell material to the Saudis or to the Israelis, you do it with a political rider — peace should be the final goal," he said.

Prince Hassan added that he believed the Soviet Union res-

Syria warns of civil war

(Continued from page 1)

In a strongly-worded editorial, the official daily Al Thawra said: "Acceptance of the agreement is a dangerous gamble with Lebanon's future... to go through with this surrender deal would kindle a brutal civil war which would smash Lebanon's unity and end its existence as a country."

"Difficult days lie ahead for Lebanon if this deal is signed," Al Thawra said. "A dangerous future awaits anyone who takes part in passing this deal of shame."

Damascus strongly opposes the Israeli-Lebanese deal which it says would turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate and harm Syria's own security.

Al Baath newspaper, organ of the ruling Baath Party, said: "Syria will give as much support as it can to any effort inside or outside Lebanon to prevent the passing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement."

It called for an urgent "escalation of national struggle" against the agreement and appealed for solidarity in Lebanon and the Arab countries against it.

Al Baath said the agreement would not bring peace to Lebanon, but only destroy the basis of

the Lebanese state and bring "woes, disasters and bloodshed."

Seven Lebanese politicians close to Syria have expressed strong objections to the deal but have so far stopped short of declaring a united front to fight it.

Lebanon has said the agreement will end eight years of civil strife which started with the 1975-76 civil war.

The accord calls for the withdrawal of the 25,000 Israeli troops in Lebanon. Israel has said it will not pull out unless Syrian and Palestinian forces in the north and east of the country also leave.

Syria has indicated it cannot accept the deal, clinched by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during two weeks of diplomacy in Lebanon and Israel, as a basis for withdrawal.

An unnamed Syrian official was quoted in the New York Times Sunday as saying Syria would never pull out of Lebanon, regardless of the views of the United States.

Syrian troops entered Lebanon in 1976 to end the civil war and stayed on under a peace-keeping mandate from the 22-member Arab League which has since expired.

Gulf launches new attempt to stop oil spill

(Continued from page 1)

Wednesday, informed sources said.

The oil has been pouring from the wells in Iran's Nowruz field for more than two months, forming a slick said to be dotted across 8,000 square miles and threatening to pollute the coasts of all eight Gulf states.

Political wrangling between Iran and Iraq has thwarted three attempts by ministers from all eight countries to devise a formula to allow repair crews to work safely on the wells, which lie in a dangerous combat zone.

Tehran and Baghdad have agreed only that a massive clean-up can begin outside the war zone, and a special boat is due to begin sucking up the slick on Wednesday.

Iran has said that it and the co-operation council, which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman, reached an understanding on creating a demilitarised zone and on other anti-slick measures. But Baghdad was not included.

GCC foreign ministers meeting in Bahrain last Wednesday drew up an action plan and Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifa

said it provided for contacts with all the parties.

Iraq has offered a limited ceasefire around the wells, but Iran argues that this is inappropriate since it would not attack its own territorial waters. It wants a simple guarantee from Baghdad that workmen will not be attacked.

All the Gulf states are on alert for pollution and booms are in place around the water intakes of vital desalination plants and power stations. Three clean-up crews fought small patches of oil on Qatari beaches Sunday, but it was not clear whether this oil came from the slick or from passing tankers.

WAFA reported earlier that Mr. Arafat intended to make more trips to his men's positions in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley. His visit on Friday was the first since he quit Israeli besieged Beirut last August.

Arafat: War is only way

(Continued from page 1)

level of the only available means now of recharting the political map through an Arab military movement supporting the Palestinian-Lebanese national struggle."

It was one of the toughest statements Mr. Arafat had made in months and came amid tension in eastern Lebanon, where Israeli troops are facing Syrian and PLO forces.

His statement also coincided with warnings in the official Syrian media that Syria would try to torpedo a deal for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, exp-

Chinese team voices total support for Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting delegation representing the National Political Committee of the People's Republic of China Sunday voiced its country's total support for objectives of the Palestinian people.

Speaking at a meeting with National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar, the delegation head said that "the Chinese people realises the extent of the Jordanian people's sufferings in its confrontation with the Israeli enemy, who continue to threaten its stability and security."

Mr. Arar voiced Jordan's appreciation of Chinese support for all just Arab causes. He also stressed that Jordan seeks to est-

"Jordan looks forward to the achievement of a just peace, but finds no positive responses from Israel due to the Zionist's intent on forcing us to capitulate on every issue," Mr. Arar added.

Mr. Arar and NCC members also discussed several world issues of mutual concern to Jordan and China with the members of the visiting delegation.

The Chinese delegation later met Senate Speaker Ahmad Tarawneh who briefed them on the Middle East situation. Both sides discussed the Chinese government's stands vis-a-vis Arab related issues. The meeting was attended by several other Senate members.

Police apprehend Amman 4-man house-break gang

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman police Sunday announced the arrest of a four-member gang who carried out a number of robberies in the capital and its suburbs. The gang broke into houses in Jabal Hussein, Jabal Amman and Shmeisani during holiday periods when the owners were away and stole televisions, videos, cassette recorders, watches, jewellery and arms.

The gang members told the police that they used an assortment of equipment to break open doors and windows, after having visited

their victims under false pretences in order to discover the layout of the property.

According to a statement issued Sunday, police received a tip off from a citizen who saw a burglar breaking into a house, whom they arrested.

The thief, an Egyptian national, admitted hiring cars to help in getting away from the scene of the crime. His statement then resulted in the arrest of three other members of the group who all proved to be unemployed persons in Amman.

Children's book show begins

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Sarvath opened the Friends of Children Club's eighth exhibition of children's books Sunday. The exhibition aims at familiarising children with Jordanian writers, especially writers of children's stories.

ALLERGAN INTERNATIONAL, a leading pharmaceutical company requires the services of two executive secretaries.

The following requirements are essential:

- Fluent in English, writing, reading, and speaking.
- Typing, filing and telex operating.
- Shorthand is a major asset.

-- Full day work -- from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. including 45 minutes break for lunch.

Interested personnel are requested to call Mrs. Lisa Helewa, Phone No. 670839 Amman, for appointment.

Jordan Times

British Labour Party shows a united stand

By James Anderson
Reuter

LONDON — Britain's opposition Labour Party approaches a general election next month behind a facade of unity adopted after four years of bitter and embarrassing internal strife.

Throughout conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's years in power, public opinion polls have shown that Labour consistently failed to capitalise on the bread-and-butter issues of economic contraction and rising unemployment.

Labour trails the Conservatives by 17.5 per cent, according to the latest poll, and bookmakers put the odds against a Labour victory at 3-1.

The party's hopes for success in the June 9 election are pinned largely on unemployment, which has risen from 5.4 per cent of the workforce to 13 per cent since Labour left office in 1979.

But the party leader, 69-year-old Michael Foot, is on the evidence of the polls, a liability.

He owes his position mainly to a stalemate over the leadership between the party's leftwing and rightwing factions.

The strains of ideological discord were only partially released two years ago by the schism which gave birth to a new centrist party, the Social Democrats.

Over a broad range of policy issues likely to figure in the campaign, Labour's leading lights have difficulty disinguisng their deep differences with each other and with the proclaimed policies of the trades union-dominated party conference.

The party's spokesmen on defence and foreign affairs, Denis Healey and John Silkin, are moderates whose private views clash with Labour's commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Strong supporters of the NATO alliance, they have managed to retain a degree of ambiguity in official statements of policy, including suggestions that negotiations with the Soviet Union might play a part in nuclear disarmament.

If peace-making is the real intention of the United States, it would do well to review the principles upon which it feels peace must be based and offer a more balanced package of proposals that would win the support of the entire Arab World — instead of only trying to cajole, blackmail and pressure little old Jordan into breaking ranks with the Arab World and marching along to disaster with Uncle Sam.

It is easy for Americans to blame the Arabs for not stepping forward and talking peace. But those who apportion blame so easily should spend half as much time assessing their own responsibilities for the continued state of conflict in the Middle East. When America makes a reasonable offer, it will receive a reasonable Arab response. When it offers imbalanced and hesitant vagueness, it gets back the same.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Darkness before the dawn

SINCE May 15, 1948, the Arab region has been subject to tragic events that have not only befallen the Palestinian people but also the whole of the Arab Nation: its land, freedom and heritage. All through this period, disunity has characterised the Arab stance which continues to be preoccupied with petty divisions and which allows the Israeli strategy for the eighties to go ahead unimpeded. The 1948 calamity, which first created the Palestinian people's sufferings, and the ones that followed were not the only features of the past thirty-five years. The heroic struggle of the Jordanian Armed Forces in 1948 and 1968, the crossing of the Suez Canal by the Egyptian forces, the Golani Heights battles in '73 and the heroic defence of Beirut last year all testify to the ability of the Arabs to confront the dangers they face and safeguard their land and future.

The history of the Arab Nation shows that with unity, all foreign invasions have and can again be faced and thwarted. The crusaders could not stay for ever in the region after its occupation, the Tartars, in spite of all the pain and damage they inflicted upon the Arabs, were likewise driven out of Arab land. It is obvious that the Zionist crusade will eventually meet a similar fate. The dark clouds that overhang our region are frustrating, but this situation, which Israel at present perpetuates, should not allow us to forget the facts of history which show that darkness is but the threshold to a new dawn.

Al Dustour: Chance is still there

THE past 35 years have witnessed great sufferings and defeats for the Arabs, and, regardless of the numerous resolutions and rhetorics, the Palestinian people remain the victim of the international community's indifference towards its just cause. The Middle East is also still an arena of fierce struggle, and is invariably exposed to a loss of justice, peace and stability.

The memories of May 15th, 1948 brings back the images of a people, whose land having been usurped, are forced to seek refuge in the four corners of our planet. The self-centred world did little to help the victims regain their way of life or restore their rights. The tragedy of the Palestinian people is blatant evidence of the moral crisis the world community is suffering. High-sounding slogans by superpowers prove to be of no genuine content when it comes to Palestinian rights.

Israel's aggressive drive has turned the region into a place of massacres, insecurity and human suffering. Those who played a decisive role in establishing Israel, and who are still providing it with all the means of destruction it possesses, should take a good hard look at themselves. It is they who bear the responsibility for the sufferings of the Palestinian and they should accordingly make up for these injustices.

Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. objectivity in doubt

IN his message to the 11th annual conference of the National Association of Arab-Americans, His Majesty King Hussein conveyed to American public opinion Jordan's view of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and informed them of its realities. For many years, the Zionist propaganda machine has been distorting the facts and misinforming people of its aggressive practices, supported mainly by the flow of money and arms from the U.S. Israel's expansionist plans in the Middle East have been the main reason for the failure of the international community to implement the necessary decisions to end the Palestinian tragedy. The past 35 years have seen continued Israeli aggression against the Arabs, and tireless attempts are made whenever it is possible to liquidate the Palestinian people and eradicate their national identity. Part of this conspiracy is directed at Jordan, which should allegedly become an alternative homeland for the Palestinians.

The Palestinian people themselves are determined to regain their own homeland, in order to practise self-determination and live in peace. Israel's policeman role in the region would not have been established without U.S. concern to give such a role priority over peace.

Labour is also committed to withdrawing Britain from the 10-nation European Community.

Its most prominent common market advocates, former cabinet ministers Roy Jenkins and Shirley Williams, defected to found the Social Democratic Party (SDP). But other pro-market figures remain, like Silkin and home affairs spokesman Roy Hattersley.

Party spokesmen argue that withdrawal to a more self-sufficient economy would increase employment in Britain. But the conservatives warn, and some Labour leaders also fear, that it would throw more people out of work.

The difficulty of disentangling the economy from its main trading partners and negotiating new relationships with Europe would be enormous, leading some commentators to doubt a Labour government would actually carry through its withdrawal pledge.

No issues have been more thorny for Labour governments than inflation and relations with the trade unions.

Economists generally feel that devaluation of sterling and a large boost in public spending, both advocated by Labour's Economic Spokesman Peter Shore as ways to increase employment, might spur big rises in prices.

Labour governments of the 1960s and 1970s sought to restrain inflation by limiting wage rises.

But those policies antagonised the unions and alienated many traditional Labour voters. A series of strikes in the public services in the last year of James Callaghan's Labour government helped Thatcher to power.

The unions which will be paying most of the Labour Party's election costs are now adamant they are not doing so to bring in another era of enforced restraint on their wage claim. But rightwingers like Healey are unlikely to have abandoned their conviction that a free-for-all in wage demands would undermine any programme to boost the economy back to the nearly full employment which Britain enjoyed in the 1960s.

The Daily Mirror, Labour's only supporter among the mass-circulation national newspapers, has endorsed the party again, but disagrees with its policy on wage restraint, the common market and nuclear arms.

The Labour Party's internal battles are, in a sense, the inheritance of success.

Clement Attlee's post-war Labour administration transformed the social climate by bringing in the "welfare state" and establishing state control over basic industries like the railways, the coal mines and steel production.

But it left much of the economy in private ownership and kept Britain firmly allied with the United States.

For more than a generation, Labour was dominated by moderates whose aspirations fell broadly within that framework and Conservatives showed no strong wish to alter it.

In the Labour Party, the str-

uggle of right and left was stilled a few months ago by the realisation that continued disunity would virtually guarantee electoral disaster.

Carefully worded formulas were drafted to span most of the major policy differences.

The trade unions, battered by Conservative legislation to reduce their powers, fell into line to banish the campaign.

With electoral boundaries now redrawn to reflect declining population in Labour's industrial and inner-city strongholds, analysts estimate the opposition must capture 90 seats from the Conservatives to gain control of the 650-member parliament.

And the election campaign truce has only postponed further struggles over what the party will actually do if it wins, or what direction it will take if it loses.

Foot, who not long ago sank to the lowest standing in public opinion for a major party leader since World War II, is to many com-

mentators an unconvincing candidate for prime minister.

A bookish leftwinger by instinct and background, he has been more and more dominated by the rightwingers currently in the saddle in the party's national executive.

He has never seemed as happy in the responsibilities of office or party leadership as he did a decade ago, when he relished the intellectual freedom of a fiery backbencher.

Healey, the party's deputy leader and Thatcher's most telling antagonist in House of Commons debate, is more popular with the voters than Foot, according to opinion poll.

If Labour should win the election, he would almost certainly be the most influential figure in the cabinet and, given Foot's age, he might well be prime minister within a year or two in spite of strong opposition from the party's leftwingers.



Nationalism: A major problem for Tito's followers

By Richard Balmforth
Reuter

BELGRADE — Yugoslavia paid respects on May 4, to the memory of its greatest son, Josip Broz Tito, while his political heirs continue to wrestle with the problems he left.

Sirens sounded in mid-afternoon, traffic halted, shops, factories and offices stopped work and people observed a minute's silence in memory of Tito, who died three years ago.

The moment was emotional for most Yugoslavs, who still feel deference for the legendary, paternalistic leader of modern Communist Yugoslavia.

But against a background of economic problems, the haunting spectre of divisive nationalism and apparent political drift, it was a time for sober reflection by Yugoslavia's present-day leaders on the fragility of Tito's legacy.

Though they will never voice their thoughts in public, they will almost certainly attribute the country's plight to mistakes made during Tito's nearly 40 years of rule.

The \$20 billion foreign debt with which the country is saddled can be attributed to reckless for-

ign borrowing, unwise investment in worthless industrial projects and simple economic mismanagement during Tito's life-time, Western diplomats say.

Yugoslavs are paying for those mistakes today with a shortage of such basic goods as coffee, cooking oil and washing powder, petrol rationing and restrictions on foreign travel as the government strives to save much-needed hard currency.

Then there is the issue of nationalism and the federal leaders' recurring nightmare that the six republics might disintegrate under the impact of divisive nationalist interests.

Along with a need for economic stabilisation, outbreaks of nationalism — Albanian, Serbian, Croatian or Muslim — represent the chief worry of Yugoslavia's party, state and government leaders of today.

Newspapers carry reports of Serbs or Muslims being punished for singing nationalist songs publicly or staging other overt displays of nationalism, judged dangerous to federal harmony.

There were few such reports

under Tito's authoritarian rule — there were fewer such outbreaks and he kept a tighter grip on the press.

Observers say the trigger to the rising tide of nationalism in Yugoslavia was the riots in the southern province of Kosovo two years ago.

There are those who, at least in private, blame Tito for giving too much political autonomy to the region, which is dominated by ethnic Albanians — the country's main non-Slav group — and economically the most backward in Yugoslavia.

At least nine people died in rioting there in the spring of 1981 when federal authorities moved to restore order.

The situation is now calm. But observers say the riots aroused dormant nationalist feeling among the Serbs, Yugoslavia's majority national group, but a minority in Kosovo.

This in turn sparked a chain reaction among nationalist elements elsewhere throughout the federation.

Press reports now indicate increasing nervousness over Muslim

nationalism in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. There are signs too of official unease in Macedonia about the Albanian population.

Two months ago there was a national outcry over the banning of a theatre play in the autonomous province of Vojvodina because the work had been judged liable to incite Serbian nationalism and a Croatian reaction.

These stresses are increased by an impression of political drift in the ranks of the Yugoslav leadership.

The government, under the premiership of Mrs. Milka Planinc, exerts more authority as an institution than it wielded under Tito and has pushed through unpopular austerity measures to fight the country's economic problems.

But the Communist Party, constitutionally the guiding force of Yugoslav society, appears to be split between Liberals urging greater democratisation of political life and those who favour a more dogmatic approach to present-day problems.

There is no clear party line on several major issues and working

out just who holds power and decides the country's direction is a favourite guessing-game in the post-Tito era.

The system of rotating top party and government jobs, devised by Tito to ensure federal harmony, has slowed down decision-making.

The present nine-state presidency is headed by Petar Stambolic and the 24-member party presidency by Miti Ribicic. Both men are about to step down under the rotation system.

Rivalry among the six republics and two autonomous provinces, which constitutionally hold an equal stake in the destiny of the country, often frustrates federal planners and occasionally makes nonsense of economic schemes for the country as a whole.

Many Yugoslav political analysts favour a purge of republic leadership to secure greater commitment to the federal principle as opposed to local republic interests.

Many intellectuals suggest that one failing of Tito's rule was his emphasis on forging Yugoslavia's foreign policy of non-alignment,

which assured him international stature at the cost of internal problems.

His image remains untouchable however. His portrait hangs in all government offices and in shops throughout the country. In every republic and autonomous province there is by law a town named after Tito.

It is still a crime to slander his memory. And though his memory is revered, official praise fails short of a personality cult and his name is sparingly invoked at official meetings.

Veteran observers say there is momentum towards greater democratisation — to an extent Tito might have found alarming.

The press, criticised for self-censorship over the Kosovo events of 1981, has become more outspoken on almost all issues and enjoys a freedom of comment unimaginable under Tito's rule.

And the Federal Assembly — the country's parliament — has moved away from the rubber-stamp role it once fulfilled and is now a theatre for open debate more along the lines of Western democracies.

Warsaw-Church ties still strained

By Peter Millar
Reuter

WARSAW (R) — Relations between the Roman Catholic Church and the Communist authorities in Poland are showing visible signs of strain only weeks before a Warsaw convention on May 3. The area was cordoned off by security forces at the time and a church source said one of the 15 people who broke in carried an official-style walkie-talkie radio.

The pope has also asked the government to mark his visit with an amnesty, but State Spokesman Jerzy Urban said the time was not yet right.

Communist Party Leader Wojciech Jaruzelski has said the pope's visit is "not desired by all" but he expects it to contribute to national reconciliation.

Three days of riots during rival May day marches organised by supporters of the banned independent trade union Solidarity and a series of incidents since suggest reconciliation is not imminent.

The episcopate's secretary, Archbishop Bronislaw Dabrowski, rejected outright a state request that May 1st masses be cancelled in order to thwart a Solidarity underground call for people to gather after mass in marches to rival the official may parades.

Any direct criticism of the papacy is rare in the Polish media. Indirect jibes at the church from

the official press have become more frequent. An opinion poll said many Poles complained that foreign aid was being unfairly distributed was published with the statement that in most cases aid was distributed by the church.

An attack in more tangible form came last Wednesday when a 68-year-old jesuit priest was imprisoned for collecting money to help jailed demonstrators.

Father Stefan Dzierzek, head of a jesuit monastery at Kalisz, west of Warsaw, was sentenced to two months in prison for breaching the misdemeanour code which forbids organising a public collection to meet an official fine.

The sentencing was a direct blow to the church's attitude that it can help those jailed under martial law as it has always helped the poor and oppressed.

Preparations are proceeding for the papal visit. The pope has approved the programme which will take him to eight towns between June 16 and 22.

But it is no secret that doubts and fears about the visit are being expressed in circles from the Communist hierarchy to the Solidarity underground.

Sources present at a Warsaw discussion group organised by a priest said many people feared Pope John Paul could unwittingly become an instrument of the authorities and they felt the timing of the visit before the definitive lifting of martial law was wrong.

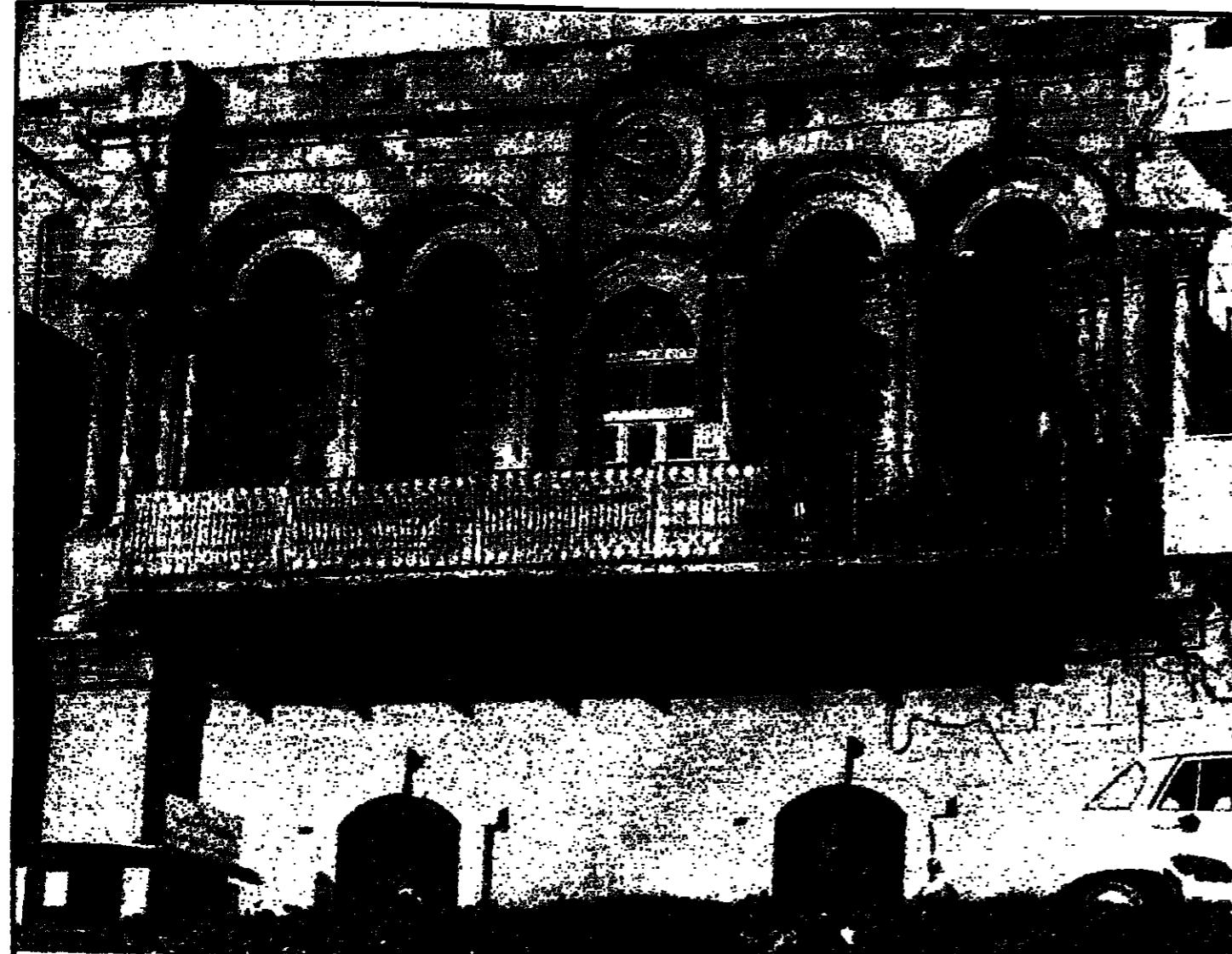
Whites would continue to hold the greatest power as their chamber would have the most members and they would have a large majority in a body which would elect a president with wide-ranging powers.

The National Party faces a crucial challenge in two by-elections next week from the right-wing conservative party which is pre-selecting voters with the spectre of eventual black majority rule.

The Nationalists have been at pains to tell voters in the two conservative constituencies of the northern transvaal that blacks will never be part of government.

The Nationalists have been at pains to tell voters in the two conservative constituencies of the northern transvaal that blacks will never be part of government.

Salt's architecture flourishes at turn of the century



This turn-of-the-century house built by Tewfic Muasher is one of the architectural masterpieces of Salt

Continuing a three-part article on the unique historic town of Salt.

Text and photos by Rami G. Khouri

The two decades around the turn of the century gave Salt the architectural legacy that defines it and gives it its special character to this day. The typical traditional family house consisted of one to three stories, was built of yellow stone and was adorned with an assortment of arches, projecting balconies, vaulted roofs, courtyards, stairs, pillars, windows and doors. Access was normally through a courtyard or passage, from which radiated a special room to receive guests, a multipurpose family room, a bedroon, a kitchen and a toilet, which was usually outside the house. The combination of the beautiful yellow stone, the pleasing facades of the individual houses and the tiered unity of rows of houses one above the other, climbing the sides of the three hills that converge in the centre of the old city, gave Salt its charm and its special atmosphere. Modern construction has intruded upon this traditional urban fabric, but in many parts of the city-centre visitors can still wander through the streets and experience the city as it was 100 years ago.

The end of World War I ushered in a new era for Salt. The Emirate of Transjordan was established in 1921, following a meeting in Salt in October 1920 at which the sheikhs of the area were canvassed and readily accepted the idea of statehood under the Emir Abdallah. In 1922, the Transjordanian government established itself in Salt for a few months, but eventually moved to Amman to establish a new capital city for the country. In May 1923, a treaty with Great Britain granted Transjordan its nominal independence, but a British presence was maintained in Amman until the young country could fully stand on its own two feet.

The prosperity of Salt at the end of the 19th century and early 20th century was due to two things, notes the Jordanian historian and University of Jordan professor, Dr. Adnan Bakhit: its role as a trading city astride the main route

from Europe and the Palestine coast to the east bank and the Arabian interior; and the benefits it derived from being in the right place at the right time, when the Ottoman Empire implemented its *tanzeem* projects, to reorganise, modernise and rejuvenate the region. The *tanzeem* included a centralisation of authority and imposition of law and order, the elimination of local power groups and the implementation of vast new agricultural development projects based on irrigation techniques borrowed from Europe. The Hijaz Railway, from Medina to Damascus, was part of the *tanzeem* effort. By the early 20th century, the region around Salt and stretching all the way to Maheesh and Hummar, just beyond the outskirts of modern Sweileh, was one continuous vineyard, producing the famous raisins and also moving into downstream industries such as wine-making.

The birth of Amman as the new capital soon shifted the political focus away from Salt. But Salt continued to play a dominant role in Jordanian life for another decade, particularly in the field of culture and education. The reason was simple: In 1924, the Salt secondary school for boys was completed and opened its doors. Located at the summit of a hill just south of the main city, the secondary school ushered in a new, if brief, period of importance for Salt. It attracted schoolteachers

from different parts of the Arab World, particularly from Damascus, Lebanon and Palestine, whose presence gave the city an intellectual veneer that was as lively as it was novel. Some of the school's young graduates continued their higher education in Beirut, Damascus, Baghdad, Jerusalem or Cairo, and returned to Salt armed with their then awe-inspiring Bachelor's degrees.

One of the school's first students was the now noted Jordanian poet and writer Husni

Fariz, who was born in Salt in 1907 and spent his childhood soaking up whatever education he could in religious institutions. He enrolled in the new secondary school when it opened in 1924, and graduated three years later with two other boys in his class. He then travelled to Beirut and joined the American University of Beirut, graduating with a B.A. in history and literature in 1932. What was a well educated Salti lad to do in 1932 after completing university studies? What else? He returned to Salt and taught history and geography at the secondary school for boys for 14 years, during the last two of which he was also promoted to headmaster of the school. Not only had he studied and taught in and run the school, but, as a young boy working by the side of his stonemason father one summer, Husni Fariz also helped to build it. Some of the stones in the building were cut by him on a warm summer day, sometime in 1923 or 1924. That was Salt in the 1920s -- the child who helped his father build a school would later graduate from it, teach in its and become its headmaster.

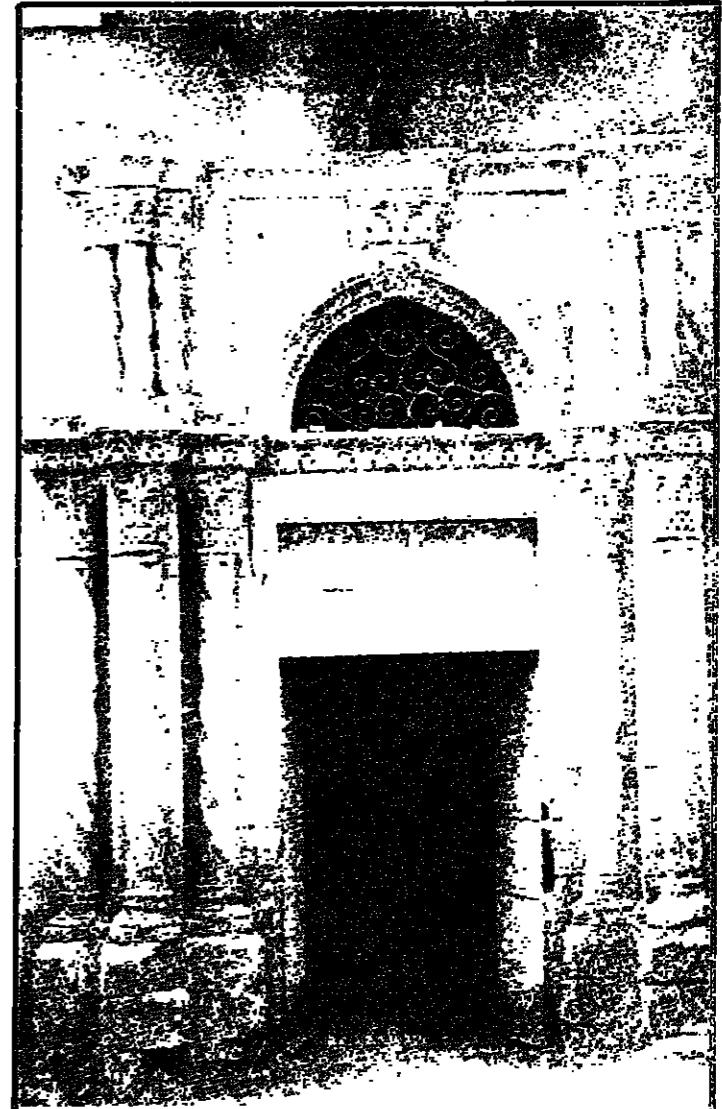
Husni Fariz remembers Salt in the 1920s as being an active, fun-filled place for a young boy to grow up in. The predominant activity and economic base of the city was agriculture. Raisins and grapes were exported every week to cities in Palestine, and the famous Salt raisins were called *banat sham* ("young ladies of Damascus") after their delicate and sweet attributes. Cheese and soap were among the important products imported in return from Nablus, while most basic needs, such as rugs, clothing, shoes, furniture, clay pots and ceramic plates were manufactured locally. As early as 1914, he remembers attending plays at the Roman Catholic church and listening to travelling Arab musicians perform at people's homes in the city.

The growth of Amman as the capital of Jordan soon eclipsed Salt's status as the country's leading urban centre. In the late 1930s and 1940s, Amman took over from Salt as the commercial, political and administrative centre of the East Bank. While the Amman region has since grown into a sprawling urban complex, housing some 1.4 million people, or about 60 per cent of the entire population of Jordan, Salt has grown at a slower pace, increasing in size to only about 35,000 people. This has been key to its ability to safeguard its traditions and its physical character.

A shorter version of this article appears in the current edition of *Jordan Magazine*.



Above: A classic late 19th century doorway on Hammam Street. Below: The front entrance of the house of Falah Al Hammad, built in the early years of this century with, to the left, details of its intricate stonework



TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Kora
17:50 Cartoons
18:10 Children's Programme
18:30 Little House
19:20 Programmes Review
19:30 Armed Forces Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:40 Arabic Varieties
23:10 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: Taxi
21:10 Freedom Road (Mohammad Ali)
22:00 News in English
22:15 Classical Hour

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 9560 KHz, SW

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 News Bulletin
10:00 News Summary
10:35 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:45 Pop Session
13:00 News Bulletin
14:00 News Summary
14:10 Over a Cup of Tea
14:30 Concert Hour
15:00 News Summary
16:00 Instruments, Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan in History
17:15 Pope Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:30 Doctor at Large
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
19:45 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:25 News Summary
22:00 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newdesk 06:30 The World

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

"Most Ancient Jordan: The Past Half-Million Years" at the American Centre.

"French Contributions to Jordanian Archaeology" at the French Cultural Centre.

SLIDE LECTURE

"Human Hunters and Gatherers" by Dr. Gary Rolfe at the American Centre at 7:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 661026/7

American Centre 41520

British Council 36140/8

Canadian Centre 40000

Goethe Institute 41993

Soviet Cultural Centre 42023

Spanish Cultural Centre 39777

Turkish Cultural Centre 665195

Hays Arts Centre 667181

Y.W.C.A. 41793

Y.W.M.A. 664251

Ammun Municipal Library 36111

University of Jordan Library 843553

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Ierash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Oula (Citadel Hill).

Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(4:00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m.

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SPORTS

Marriott's 10-km road race set for Friday

By Ara Voskian
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The annual 10-kilometre road race sponsored by Amman Marriott Hotel will start at 4:00 p.m. Friday, May 20, Marriott General Manager Haille Aguilar said Sunday.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Amman Marriott Hotel Mr. Aguilar said that all proceeds will go to Al Hussein Society for the Physically Handicapped.

During the press conference the five-man panel, led by Mr. Aguilar, briefed the press on the forthcoming event, consisted of Mr. Khalil Adwan, director of marketing at the Marriott, Mr. Harchik Etyemezian, a retired army officer and two officers from the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Registration for the annual Marriott race officially started Sunday and will be open for all

Jordanians and non-Jordanians until next Friday morning.

More than 900 people are expected to participate in this year's road race including 60 to 100 soldiers from the Jordanian Armed Forces. Around 920 men, women and children participated in the first annual race held on May 21 last year during which six cups and twenty silver medals were presented to the winners.

The Department of Tourism, which supplied the cups and medals for the last year's race, will also supply this year's prizes to be distributed to the winners. The first three men and women will receive cups and ten runners up in each category will receive medals.

Speaking on behalf of the organization Mr. Adwan thanked the Armed Forces and the Department of Tourism for their help and contribution to make this year's road race a success.

This year's 10-kilometre race route will be the same as last year's

which will start and end at Marriott Hotel.

The event is expected to be fiercely competitive especially in the men's category as more than 60 of the best Armed Forces athletes from several divisions are expected to take part in the event.

During the race there will be four water stations along the course with running times given every two kilometres.

Last year's record time in the male category was 31 minutes and 30 seconds and the winner was Fayed Jumaa from Al Hussein Club in Mafrag followed by Muhammad Eid Ali from the Armed Forces in the second place and Ali Simeen also from the Armed Forces in third place.

Last year's record time for the female category was 43 minutes and 35 seconds and the winner was Emry Carlson followed by Tharwan Abadi from Amman Club in the second place and Betsy Carlson in the third place.

Noah wins W. German Open

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Frenchman Yannick Noah recovered from a shaky start to beat holder Jose Higueras of Spain 3-6, 7-5, 6-2, 6-0 in the final of the West German Open Tennis Championship here Sunday.

The Cameroun-born Noah, 23 on Monday, is the first Frenchman to win the title for more than 50 years.

Higueras, playing the more solid approach shots and using the net well, won the first set comfortably and made Noah fight for every point in the second.

But he lost concentration when 3-2 down in the third set, served a double-fault to give Noah the breakthrough, and from then on did not win another game.

Noah returned to form in the last week after a poor per-

formance at the World Team Tennis Cup in Dusseldorf which cost him a hefty fine for disappearing without explanation.

His powerful serve and acrobatic volleys were too much for the 30-year-old Spaniard, although Higueras tried to match the Frenchman in aggressive net-play early on.

In the final set, Higueras could do nothing right. He repeatedly served double-faults on crucial points, snatched at balls which would have gone out of court and his easy volleys into the net.

Noah, ranked 11th in the world, dictated the match with deep topspin approach shots and lethal volleys, running out an easy-winner in just under three hours.

The Frenchman grew in confidence during the tournament,

ending the long unbeaten run of Sweden's Mats Wilander in the quarter-finals and disposing of American Eric Fromm in straight sets in Saturday's semifinal.

Higueras, who had not dropped a single set in the tournament, entered the final as favourite after leading Spain to a surprise triumph in the World Team Tennis Cup last week.

Heinz Gunthardt of Switzerland and Balazs Taroczy of Hungary topped WCT World Champions Brian Gottfried of the United States and Mark Edmundson of Australia 7-6, 4-6, 6-4 in the doubles final.

The hard-fought victory, which took two hours, was worth \$15,000 and 60 points in the ATP world ranking for the European

Frenchman in the tournament.

American runs second fastest 100m ever

MODESTO, California (R) — Carl Lewis of the United States ran the second fastest 100 metres in history Saturday night at an invitational track and field meeting here.

His time of 9.96 seconds was 0.01 second off the world record which fellow-American Jim Hines set at the 1982 summer Olympics in Mexico City.

Lewis, 21, said he was happy with his time but added he would like to better it some time this year.

Four other Americans recorded 1983 world bests. Edwin Moses, in his first race since September 1981, won the 400 metre hurdles in 49.02 seconds. He has now won 73 consecutive races, with his

last defeat in the event back in August 1977.

The other 1983 bests were set by Larry Myricks, who won the 200 metres in 20.34 seconds, former world record holder Max Wilkins, who took the discus with a throw of 230 feet, 10 inches (70.36 metres), and Kevin Akin, who won the shotput with a toss of 70 feet, 10 inches (21.59 metres).

Former world record holder Thierry Vigneron of France won the pole vault with a jump of 18 feet, 6 inches (5.64 metres).

In the women's competition, Evelyn Ashford of the United States won the 100 metres in a wind-aided time of 10.85 seconds.

Higueras top seed for Rome tennis

ROME (R) — Clay court specialist Jose Higueras of Spain will be in his element as the sun looks set to shine on the \$300,000 Italian Open Tennis Championship beginning here Monday.

If the seedings are proved accurate, bearded favourite Higueras, 30, should clash with second seed Jose Luis Clerc of Arg-

entina in the final next Sunday. But American Eliot Teltscher, seeded third, will be looking for repeat appearance in the final after last year's defeat by Andres Gomez of Ecuador.

Teltscher's compatriot Brian Gottfried is seeded fourth in a tournament which is short on top names this year.

Much of the fault lies in the scheduling. The Italian event falls the week before the French Championships and many world class players prefer to save themselves for Paris.

Higueras, beaten by France's Yannick Noah in the final of the West German Open Championship Sunday, was a semifinalist at Rome's Foro Italico in 1978 and scored his last triumph in February when he beat Teltscher in the finals at La Quinta, California.

The lanky Gomez, 23, is ranked fifth although he has not distinguished himself since his awesome reach confounded California Teltscher in last year's final.

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Romanian sets women's long jump record

VIENNA (R) — Anisoara Cusimir of Romania set a women's long jump world record of seven metres 21 centimetres (23.65 feet) at a triangular international between the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and Romania in Bucharest Sunday. The Soviet sports daily said.

The previous record of 7.20 metres was held by Vali Ionescu, also of Romania.

Boxberger first to Arc de Triomphe

PARIS (R) — Jacky Boxberger, 34, of France won the eighth Paris marathon Saturday, finishing at the head of some 13,000 runners from 45 countries.

Boxberger, near the front throughout, arrived at the finish at the Arc de Triomphe in two hours 12 minutes 38 seconds, 54 seconds behind the Paris record set by American Ronald Tabb and Briton David Cannon in 1981.

Pole Rizard Marczak, his close rival from the 27th km, finished 62 seconds behind.

After the first 10 kms, Box-

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Late winner saves Spain

VALLETTA (R) — Group Seven

leaders Spain had to fight all the way to overcome plucky Malta 3-2 in their European Soccer Champs tie Sunday.

The Spaniards had to battle back from 2-1 down in the second half and it took them until six minutes from time to score the winning goal against the fast-tiring Maltese.

The result keeps Spain well out in front at the top of the section with nine points from their five matches, four more than the Netherlands who have a game in hand, and Ireland.

Malta have no chance of reaching the finals in France next year but they played with determination, courage and no little skill.

They fell behind to a 23rd minute Carrasco goal but stunned their much-vaunted opponents when Busuttil struck twice in the 30th and 47th minutes.

As their legs gave out, however, Spain came back into the game. Carrasco scored his second after 61 minutes and Gordillo saved Spain's blushes with an 84th minute winner.

East Germans reduce Swiss' qualifying chances

BERNE, Switzerland (R) — Swi-

zerland's prospects of catching Belgium in their qualifying group of the European Soccer Champs took a heavy blow when they were held to a goalless draw by East Germany here Saturday night.

For the Swiss to reach next year's finals in France, they must win their remaining two Group One games and Belgium must lose both theirs.

Badly depleted by illness and

injury, Switzerland suffered a series of frustrations. Hermann and Brigitte hit shots against a post in the 65th and 77th minutes and in the 88th minute the Swedish referee turned down urgent appeals by the home team for a penalty when Brigitte appeared to be fouled.

In another incident in a tense climax, Minge of East Germany needed treatment in the 86th minute after being hit by a missile thrown from the crowd.

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Des rédacteurs - traducteurs (horaires du travail: 14H30 - 19H30 certaines matinées).
S'adresser: Programme en langue française (tel: 73111 a 117, poste 219) P.O. Box 1041 Amman (Jordanie).

Jeff is 15

Kohl, Mitterrand to put aside policy tensions at summit

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand of France and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl meet here Monday to revamp the special relationship between their countries, recently buffeted by a monetary row and differences over economic policy.

Officials in Paris and Bonn said both leaders would underline at the latest of their biannual summits what they see as the permanence of the 20-year-old relationship despite current tensions.

The two men, accompanied by full teams of ministers, will discuss trade and economic relations, defense and other issues and prepare the ground for a European community stance at the Western summit at Williamsburg, Virginia later this month.

Strains between Paris and Bonn stem from quarrels over community policy as well as differences in strategy between Bonn's conservative government and the French socialists.

Reforms in Hungary spread to finance

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary's decision to set up a new bond market to finance companies, the first in Eastern Europe since World War II, is the latest example of an innovative spirit in Hungary's economy. Western economists say.

The first issue of the bonds in March followed reports of a bank discreetly paying high interest on hard currency accounts and prompted much Western press comment that Hungary was reverting to capitalism.

Since 1968 communist Hungary has pursued a policy of decentralisation and encouragement of private initiative, with the result that it now has one of the most efficient and competitive export economies in Eastern Europe.

Hungarian officials say the new bonds are a normal form of finance expanding credit available in the country and are in line with this policy.

"It would be a strange thing if the difference between capitalism and communism was the existence of a bond market," one Hungarian banker said.

In a rare television interview recently, veteran Communist Party leader Mr. Janos Kadar, speaking of new management methods to encourage enterprise and efficiency, said: "these are not

capitalist methods but socialist methods of a socialist society."

Mr. Kadar said that in 1982 the private sector had accounted for only 1.3 per cent of industrial production, one per cent of agricultural production and 1.1 per cent of retail sales.

However, the private taxis on Budapest's streets, the thriving privately-operated shops and restaurants and the produce on sale from small farmers, seem to confirm the rather different estimate of one banker who said that private enterprise accounted for up to one-fifth of the economy if the "second" or black economy is included.

Agriculture, where the reforms were first introduced 15 years ago, is one of the most successful sectors of the economy and farm production grew by four per cent last year.

Success in foreign trade is also being achieved with a substantial hard currency trade surplus reported by the national bank in the first quarter of 1983, apparently achieved by boosting exports rather than slashing imports.

Although suspicious of the reforms in the past, the Soviet Union, plagued with food shortages, has shown interest in Hungarian management methods in agriculture.

The two governments clashed in March when France threatened to pull out of the European Monetary System (EMS) and adopt an isolationist stance if Bonn refused to accompany a devaluation of the franc with a revaluation of the mark.

In the most bitter public exchange between the two countries for years, French Finance Minister Jacques Delors accused the Germans of arrogance and incomprehension of France's problems. Bonn eventually gave way and the EMS was realigned, but the row left a bitter taste in both capitals.

French officials say France, now in recession, helped West Germany's current recovery by boosting imports when it tried to reflate in 1981 and early 1982, and the Bonn's decision to revalue was to be expected.

West German officials see Bonn's concession as a gesture of Solidarity that helped preserve the EMS and the Community. The

special relationship emerged from the crisis well, they said.

Mr. Mitterrand has now put an accent on closer direct cooperation across the Rhine, particularly over industry. France believes the whole Community needs a plan to develop major new industries to compete with those of the United States and Japan.

West Germany, however, believes normal market mechanisms should prevail over state intervention and has received Mr. Mitterrand's ideas without enthusiasm.

Returning from talks in Bonn last week, French European Affairs Minister Andre Chaudenac said a common will on industrial policy was the "1983 way of being European."

Despite their political differences, Mr. Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl are said by their aides to have a good working rapport.

On East-West security, they hold similar views and Mr. Mitterrand had thrown his weight behind NATO's decision to deploy new U.S. missiles in Western Europe if disarmament talks with the Soviet Union fail to make progress.

Officials said Mr. Mitterrand was unlikely to back Mr. Kohl's plans for a declaration on European political union unless he was prepared to back it with action on an industrial strategy and deal with what is seen as Bonn's trade protectionism.

Community ministers are discussing Bonn's draft declaration at a meeting near Bonn Sunday. Diplomats said Denmark, France, and Britain objected to important sections of the declaration.

A draft compromise is reported to have been worked out in the Franco-German row over West German taxes and subsidies that French farmers say penalise them. The row led to the collapse of community farm-price talks last month.

But the approach of a June 9 general election in Britain has

U.K. to press for budget rebates

GYMNICH, West Germany (R) — Britain is expected to press its demands for budget rebates on the final day of a European community foreign ministers' conference Sunday, diplomatic sources said.

British sources said they do not expect any solution of the rebate claim to emerge from the talks but hope Britain's views can be made clear to its partners.

"We hope Brussels brings us a good way towards a solution if not to an actual agreement. Otherwise there could be ghastly problems at future meetings," one source said.

Conservative West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl hoped these talks and a formal foreign ministers' conference later this month would remove obstacles to a "solemn declaration" on union at a full summit in Stuttgart next month.

But the approach of a June 9 general election in Britain has

focused the attention of Foreign Secretary Francis Pym on London's claim for a substantial rebate on its 1983 community budget payments.

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He said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had left open the question of her attendance at the Stuttgart meeting. Any initiative on postponing the summit would have to come from the current community president, West Germany.

Diplomatic sources said the 10 ministers were likely to continue

discussions of a draft declaration on unity Monday.

They said Denmark, Britain and France continued to have reservations about two important parts of the paper, first presented by Italy and West Germany in 1981.

All three countries wished to retain a veto on decisions affecting their national interests and to restrict power ceded to the European Parliament.

Diplomatic sources said Foreign Minister Uffe Ellermann Jensen listed a total of seven reservations to the draft declaration.

The European community's foreign ministers also discussed tension in the Middle East, unrest in Central America and Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan.

Swedish scheme angers employers

STOCKHOLM (R) — A radical profit-sharing plan unveiled by a government commission to boost critically low investment in Swedish industry has stunned and angered employers, who say it would have the opposite effect.

The scheme suggests firms should contribute 20 per cent of their profits to funds that would invest in industry.

One employers' organisation spokesman said it was a tragic idea from which only Denmark, Norway and Finland would benefit as Swedish firms moved their assets abroad.

Another described the plan as a greater threat to freedom in Sweden than all the submarines at sea, a reference to recent naval hunts for suspected Soviet subs along the coast.

Trade unionists on the other hand are hopeful that their longstanding demands for greater worker involvement in industry are about to be met. They are studying the plan in detail to see if it will achieve their aims.

Commission Chairman Per-Olof Edin said the model was a first step towards the creation of so-called wage earner funds, which were the main issue of last September's general election.

The Social Democrats, now in government under Prime Minister Olof Palme, and the trade unions campaigned for the establishment of collective funds in which a percentage of firms' profits and workers' wages would be saved to buy shares in companies quoted on the stock exchange.

The idea, discussed here for many years, was to give workers an indirect stake in the economy while providing investment for growth industries but not subsidies for "lame ducks."

But it was so vigorously opposed by the non-socialist parties and firms during the election campaign, with polls showing only 16 per cent of Swedes in favour, that Mr. Palme proceeded cautiously on his return to power.

He established two commissions, one to produce a model for fund-raising and a second, yet to report, to recommend how the money should be invested. The first commission's report made no provision for raising money from workers.

"It is still unclear how the boards to control the funds would be elected. The plan also requires approval by the government and parliament before it could go into effect.

Employers, fearing a major shift in the ownership of Swedish industry, regard the plan as little short of communism.

"Our greatest horror is that our economy would become socialist and we would have to pay for it," said Mr. Anders Roettorp, an economist for the Swedish employers' federation.

Apart from that, the funds would defeat the very object they tried to achieve, he said.

Faced with what amounted to an extra corporation tax, firms would be discouraged from investing in themselves and might even consider moving abroad.

Washington (R) — Romania's foreign minister will visit Washington next week for talks expected to focus on a Romanian tax on emigrants that threatens to cost his country its favourable trade ties with the United States.

The tax system, "under which would-be emigrants must repay the government the cost of their higher education before they can leave the country, has been the subject of talks between the two countries since it was announced last October.

Last March President Reagan warned the Romanians that if the tax remained in force their Most Favoured Nation trade status (MFN) would end when the annual agreement expired on June 30.

State Department spokesman Mr. Alan Romberg, announcing the visit of Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei, said the talks on Monday and Tuesday would deal with bilateral and international questions.

Romania has called the threat to revoke the agreement "pre-

ssure and interference" in its domestic affairs, saying that since graduates have their tuition paid for by the state, the money should be repaid if they leave the country.

Talks between the two countries have been continuing, and Under-Secretary of State Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger travelled to Bucharest last January.

One other Warsaw pact member, Hungary, now enjoys MFN status. Mr. Reagan suspended Poland's MFN agreement last October after the dissolution of the Solidarity trade union.

The MFN agreement, which allows reduced duties on exports to the United States, is granted automatically to trading partners of the U.S. but is denied to all but a few communist countries.

U.S. law bars MFN for countries that impose emigration taxes.

The dispute over the tax comes at a time when emigration from Romania is at its highest level since President Nicolae Ceausescu came to power in 1965. U.S. officials said. Last year some 20,000

people left the country.

The tax is imposed on people who have completed more than the compulsory 10 years of education. Many of those affected are assessed \$3,700 to pay for two

years of the equivalent of high school, officials said.

But university graduates may be faced with bills of about \$20,000, or up to \$40,000 for those with advanced degrees.

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword

by James & Phyllis Barrick

ACROSS	28 Writer	46 Eastern	12 Greek
1 Critic's concern	Bagnold	port city	letter
5 Lids	Kindred	Dutch	Pindaric
9 Spiked club	Movie dog	commune	Chinese
13 Certain	"A Bell for —"	50 WWII vessel	weight
16 Sci. course	34 Wine comb. form	53 Wrong: pref.	Tooth: comb. form
21 Plant of the lily family	35 Speaks to first	54 Weather-wise one	25 Lab device
22 Celestial phenomenon	37 City in California	55 Painter	27 Spring festival
19 Granivorous	39 Roman god	56 Mondrian	29 Church: section
20 "— Yankees Doodle..."	40 Lake out West	60 Hebrew letter	31 Places of learning
21 Three: It	42 News agency	61 Smart-set members	32 Most eccentric
22 Conjunction	43 Summer cooler	62 Bone: comb. form	33 Arthur of tennis
23 Venue	44 Hgt.	63 Children	35 Actor
26 Area: abbr.	45 "Apres — le deluge"	64 Retreat	Bates

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SKOAL	DARE	SAN
LASHES	SOUTAT	IRI
MURDOCH	DOCH	IRL
MMIE	SNEEZED	MON
EARL	US	DRAN
ASP	HYENA	DRAN
ANODE	GRENADE	DRY
FORT	YOUNEYES	ONLY
TRIBUNALS	ESITE	TRIB
GILES	FLA	STIR
STIR	CARLS	AT
FEED	ATTEMPT	ILL
ANAL	PONIES	LAN
GET	CONTACT	ENS
STE	CUES	TONTO

1 Mallard genus

2 Adjust anew

3 Candle

4 "Said the — the fly"

5 Tissue: comb. form

6 Decked out

7 Lake

8 Cord for catching fish

9 Insane

10 Abnormal

11 Men on mounts

12 Ora — nobis

13 Pindaric

14 Chinese

15 Weight

16 Bed

17 Crow

18 Flies

19 Patron saint of France

20 Say

21 Heads: Fr.

22 Melville work

23 Insane

24 Remainder

25 Nobis

26 Nob

<p

WORLD

Etna experiment ineffective

CATANIA, Sicily (R) — A spillover channel blasted out of Mount Etna Saturday to control a 50-day lava flow proved only partially effective and needs to be deepened, scientists said Sunday after assessing the impact of the experiment.

The dynamite broached the three metre wide channel which the molten rock scooped out when it first erupted last March. But only 20 to 30 per cent of the main flow trickled into the sidesheet.

A panel of scientists set up by the Italian government wants to use mechanical diggers and bul-

dozers to deepen the entrance of the man-made groove and stop the fiery stream from ravaging orchards farther down the huge volcano.

Civil Protection Minister Loris Fortuna told a news conference several hours after Saturday's pre-dawn explosion that the next effort might include explosives but would be "less theatrical" than the first intervention to contain Europe's largest active volcano.

"We have obtained a major success," he said. "This was just the first round in a series of bat-

his remarks appeared to reflect the disappointment felt by some vulcanologists at man's first attempt to divert lava with ground level explosives.

Twelve hours after the explosion the magma in the diversion channel had advanced only 600 metres and was virtually stopped at the foot of a steep incline where it is supposed to cool.

Volcano experts said Swedish explosives contractor Lennart Abersetzen had been unable to place all the high temperature dynamite in prepared tubes because of continual lava splashes.

This had left a one metre high "doorstep" at the mouth of the new channel which must be removed or the lava level would have to be raised from its present three to four metres, they said.

Sicilian newspapers depicted the operation as a trial of strength between man and Mount Etna, but the headlines disagreed over who had won the first round.

The U.S. air force bombed a Hawaiian crater in 1935 and 1942 in unsuccessful efforts to change a lava course but Saturday's blast was the first in which technicians had placed precision charges.

"We have obtained a major success," he said. "This was just the first round in a series of bat-

Bonn extends olive branch to E. Germany

BONN (R) — West Germany's minister for inter-German relations, in an unexpectedly conciliatory statement, Sunday raised the prospect of regular East-West German summits.

Heinrich Windelen was speaking in an interview with the Deutschlandfunk radio station three weeks after East German leader Erich Honecker called off a planned visit to Bonn this year following angry exchanges over the deaths of two West Germans under East German police que-

stioning.

He also suggested for the first time that Bonn was prepared to reach a "modus vivendi" with East Berlin over a key East German demand for a revision of the inter-German border on the Elbe River.

Mr. Windelen said he believed East Germany's communist rulers were increasingly prepared to seek practical agreements.

His remarks underlined Bonn's determination not to allow a deterioration in inter-German ties

following the calling off of the Honecker visit.

Mr. Windelen noted with satisfaction that the communist leader had toned down some of East Berlin's demands for changes in inter-German relations, regarded here as unacceptable.

Mr. Windelen's remarks came in the wake of a bitter dispute in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition over the future of relations with East Germany, which was one reason for Dr. Honecker's cancellation dec-

ision.

Asked about the prospects for new agreements with East Germany, Mr. Windelen mentioned negotiations between the two countries on a consular treaty, a cultural agreement and a scientific and technical accord.

He said these were being held up by difficult problems concerning the national issue, the status of Berlin and rights to the possessions of the former state of Prussia.

Mr. Windelen's remarks came in the wake of a bitter dispute in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition over the future of relations with East Germany, which was one reason for Dr. Honecker's cancellation dec-

ision.

His remarks underlined Bonn's determination not to allow a deterioration in inter-German ties

Stuttgart dealer to be questioned about diaries

BONN (R) — Prosecutors were expected Sunday to question the dealer who supplied the faked Hitler diaries to the West German magazine Stern after he surrendered to police Saturday pleading his innocence.

Stuttgart dealer Konrad Kujau gave himself up to Bavarian border police a week after disappearing when the West German archives declared the diaries to be blatant postwar forgeries. He was taken to Hamburg Saturday night.

In a statement issued through his lawyer, Mr. Kujau admitted selling most of the 60 volumes of documents to Stern reporter Gerd Heidemann, who has since been dismissed and charged with fraud by the magazine.

Mr. Kujau said he had acted as an intermediary for the magazine and had received the diaries from two suppliers in communist East Germany, named only as Mie-

rord and Lauser.

Police and prosecutors raided Mr. Heidemann's Hamburg flat Saturday night in the hunt for evidence in their fraud investigation.

A staff revolt continued at Stern, where workers are holding a sit-in at the central editorial office to protest against the appointment of two conservative journalists as editors-in-chief and publishers.

The staff have given the magazine's owners until 1200 GMT Sunday to rescind the appointment of Johannes Gross and Peter Scholl-Latour to replace two editors-in-chief who resigned after taking the blame for publishing the Hitler forgeries.

The two nominees held two fruitless sessions of talks Saturday with the occupying journalists, who believe their appointment threatens the editorial independence of the left-liberal mag-

azine.

Alias Fischer

Mr. Kujau, aged about 45, who used the name Fischer in his dealings with Stern, described himself as an avid collector of military mementoes and artefacts from the Nazi Third Reich.

He described press allegations that he wrote the diaries himself as absurd and said he only kept about 300,000 marks (\$125,000) of the nine million marks (\$3.75 million) which Stern says it paid for the documents.

Mr. Kujau said he had always believed the documents, supplied in several installments between 1978 and last month, were genuine. Mr. Heidemann had told him they had been authenticated by Stern's experts.

Mr. Kujau's statement gave a

completely different account of the purported East German connection from the version given by the reporter in an interview with Reuters last week.

Mr. Heidemann quoted the dealer as saying he got the diaries from two brothers in East Germany, said to be an army general and a military museum director, who turned out to be a railway porter and a museum caretaker.

Mr. Kujau said he initially refused to sell the first volume to Mr. Heidemann but softened after the reporter gave him a blue gal-

uniform from his private collection said to have been worn by Nazi air force chief Hermann Goering.

He said he had personally brought two volumes of the documents out of East Germany and had made payments to his suppliers in East Germany, a Switzer-

land and West Germany.

No U.S. arms for China

KANSAS CITY (R) — China will not buy arms from the United States while Washington honours military sales agreements with Taiwan, Chinese ambassador Zhang Wenjin has said.

"We would rather buy nothing than see the U.S. keep on supplying arms to Taiwan," he told a seminar on Sino-U.S. relations.

Mr. Zhang said no sales would take place while the question of China's sovereignty over Taiwan was unresolved. It would be a mistake for U.S. leaders to think they

34 died at Berlin border

BONN (R) — The West German government said that 34 West Germans had died of heart attacks at, or near, border crossings with East Germany in the past five years.

But there was no evidence that the deaths had been caused by "chicanery or threatening behaviour," according to Ottfried Hennig, parliamentary state secretary in the ministry of inter-

German affairs.

"The West German government has had no indication ...

that the deaths occurred during controls or cross-examinations," he said in a parliamentary written answer.

"However, it cannot be ruled out that the physical stress caused by control measures at the border has not, in particular cases, had dangerous effects on an individual's health."

Rudolf Burkert's death caused a major rift between the two countries culminating in East German leader Erich Honecker cancelling a trip to Bonn later this year.

Huge drug load seized in Sinai

CAIRO (R) — A bungled bribery attempt led to the seizure this week of \$12 million worth of drugs in Egypt, an interior ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman, speaking on television, said Egypt's anti-narcotics authorities took nine months to investigate and prepare for the seizure of the drugs in the northern section of the Sinai Peninsula.

The spokesman did not disclose the number of people he said were arrested, nor the type of drugs seized.

zed. The Egyptian drug trade deals mainly in hashish.

The spokesman said the police were first tipped off when the smugglers offered a senior police officer serving in the area a bribe of \$30,000 Egyptian pounds (\$360,000) to allow the drugs in.

He said the officer made the smugglers believe he was going along with the plan by accepting some of the sum offered while he fed drug enforcement officials with information that led to the seizure.

Refinery said to pose threat to Taj Mahal

NEW DELHI (R) — India's newest oil refinery, which was opened this week, poses a threat to the country's greatest monument, the Taj Mahal, according to conservationists.

The refinery, built at Mathura with Soviet help, is barely 30 kilometres from Agra, site of the white marble mausoleum.

Experts, who some years ago

tried to get the refinery shifted, said the 300-year-old Taj built by Moghul emperor Shah Jahan as a memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal.

Officials said that to save the Taj Mahal from damage, over \$10 million have been spent on pollution control measures.

What action do you take?

Q.5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q865 ♦K7 ♦AJ6 ♦K7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

4 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you bid now?

Q.6 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q10872 ♦K7 ♦9652 ♦Q7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 NT Pass

3 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you bid now?

Q.7 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K95 ♦J102 ♦1085 ♦Q863

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 NT Pass

2 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?

U.S. scientists blame El nino for freak weather

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. scientists are blaming freak weather of the past year, from a severe drought in Australia to violent storms in California, on a well-known but little understood phenomenon called "El nino."

Government experts and scientists estimate the latest El nino, in which the Pacific rises slightly towards South America and sinks towards Asia, has been responsible for at least 813 deaths across the world and some \$8.3 billion in damage to property and crops.

El ninos are not uncommon. There have been nine since 1940.

But at a briefing early this month, experts at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said the current El nino, which began a year ago, was the most severe on record.

They said that in normal times the western side of the Pacific Ocean near Asia was slightly higher and slightly warmer than the eastern side.

What action do you take?

Q.8 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q10872 ♦K7 ♦9652 ♦Q7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

4 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you bid now?

Q.9 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K95 ♦J102 ♦1085 ♦Q863

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 NT Pass

2 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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What action do you take?

Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦Q865 ♦K7 ♦9652 ♦Q7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

2 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

4 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you bid now?

Q.5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q10872 ♦K7 ♦9652 ♦Q7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

4 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.6 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q10872 ♦K7 ♦9652 ♦Q7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass

4 ♦ Pass ?

What action do you take?

What action do you take?